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| PBS Why I stay in School?  <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/teachers/lessonplans/arts/jan-june12/pinterest_02-17.html>  The high school dropout crisis is affecting many American schools, and experts are hard at work trying to find out why kids drop out. The [American Graduate](http://www.cpb.org/americangraduate/) project and the [PBS News Hour](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/topic/american-graduate/) are also reporting on what's behind the nation's dropout crisis. To look at the issue from another angle, this lesson plan addresses a elated question: what motivates kids to stay in school?  Procedure 1. Have the class watch this video from a NewsHour Extra producer about how the process will work and why this project is important.  Video Link - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=3J5m6tUXVPk#t=0s>   2. Give students a few minutes to think about why they come to school every day and how they might represent that idea visually. Have them look at what’s already on the NewsHour’s Pinterest board for examples.<http://pinterest.com/pbsnewshour/why-i-go-to-school/>  3. Have each student sit at a computer and find a photo that represents their idea. They may use personal photos or find fair-use photos on the Web from sources like Flickr, Google Images or Wikimedia Commons.**Have students find and save a photo credit to send with their photo that states where it came from.**Here are some resources for fair-use photos:  [Flickr Creative Commons](http://www.flickr.com/creativecommons)  [Google Advanced Image Search](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page) - be sure to select “only images labeled for reuse.”  [Wikimedia Commons](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page)  If students choose to submit a personal photo, please let them know that Pinterest reserves the right to use and even sell the photo as they see fit.   4. Once students have selected their photos, ask them to write three to four sentences explaining why what’s pictured in the photo motivates them to go to school. Again, see the NewsHour’s Pinterest board for examples:<http://pinterest.com/pbsnewshour/why-i-go-to-school/>. Please note that Pinterest limits photo descriptions to 500 words.  5. Have students e-mail their completed posts (image URL or image as an attachment with photo credit, three to four sentence description, first name, grade, school, city/state) to **newshourextra@gmail.com**. *Make sure they put “Pinterest” in the subject line!*We'll post them to our Pinterest page, and students will be able to see their work online.  Extension Activities With your class, watch some student-produced videos on the high school dropout crisis from the NewsHour’s Student Reporting Labs program, at[www.studentreportinglabs.com](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/teachers/lessonplans/arts/jan-june12/www.studentreportinglabs.com) under “Student Reports.” Here are some good examples:   “[Drop Out or Stay in School? Navigating the Education Maze”](http://www.studentreportinglabs.com/video/education/drop-out-or-stay-school-navigating-education-maze)  [“Fighting Chance? Students Investigate Middle School Violence”](http://www.studentreportinglabs.com/video/education/fighting-chance-school-violence-pushes-students-out)  [“In Las Vegas, Sports Keep Kids in School”](http://www.studentreportinglabs.com/video/education/participation-sports-keeps-kids-school)  [“Dropping Out Impacts Michigan’s Future”](http://www.studentreportinglabs.com/video/education/students-investigate-consequences-dropping-out)  Have the class discuss which parts of the video most resonated with them, which they most agree with and disagree with, and why. Is dropping out a problem in their school? Why or why not? |  |
| http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/images/spacer.gif |
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